

Over the past decade or so, I have noticed a marked trend towards what can only be described as Corporate Dictatorship. Increasingly International Corporations claiming to have American interests at heart are increasingly circumventing governmental safeguards to the point at which they no longer seem to be under any sort of U.S. government control whatsoever, while at the same time, they continue to enjoy U.S. government subsidies and protections.

The trend towards Media Consolidation is a prime example of this sort of unchecked power. Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Forcing their stations to air what is, by all accounts, extremely one-sided political propaganda

just weeks before an election, is an abuse of the public airwaves. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.